

In the Claims:

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Please cancel claim 1.

Please add the following new claims 2-23:

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2. A method for treating sepsis in a mammal, the method comprising the step of:
 - (a) administering to the mammal an amount of TCF-II effective to treat sepsis.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the therapeutic agent is administered intravenously, intramuscularly or subcutaneously.
4. The method of claim 2 comprising the additional step, prior to step (a), of expressing a recombinant DNA encoding TCF-II in a host cell, thereby to prepare the therapeutic agent.
5. The method of claim 2, comprising the additional step, prior to step (a), of purifying an amount of TCF-II effective to treat sepsis.
6. The method of claim 2, wherein the mammal has, or is at risk of having, sepsis caused by a burn, surgery, cancer, AIDS, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, or long-term total parenteral nutrition.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the mammal has, or is at risk of having, sepsis caused by surgery.

a2
cont'd

8. The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II is administered to the mammal in conjunction with a pH conditioner, buffer or stabilizer.
9. The method of claim 2, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 0.6 mg to about 600 mg of TCF-II.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 6 mg to about 60 mg of TCF-II.
11. The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II *(C)* comprises a polysaccharide chain.
12. A method for treating sepsis in a mammal, the method comprising the step of:
 - (a) administering to the mammal a therapeutic agent comprising an amount of purified hepatocyte growth factor or purified scatter factor effective to treat sepsis.
13. A method for preventing sepsis in a mammal, the method comprising the step of:
 - (a) administering to the mammal an amount of TCF-II effective to prevent sepsis.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein the therapeutic agent is administered intravenously, intramuscularly or subcutaneously.
15. The method of claim 13 comprising the additional step, prior to step (a), of expressing a recombinant DNA encoding TCF-II in a host cell, thereby to prepare the therapeutic agent.

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16. The method of claim 13, comprising the additional step, prior to step (a), of purifying an amount of TCF-II effective to prevent sepsis.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the mammal is at risk of having sepsis caused by a burn, surgery, cancer, AIDS, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, or long-term total parenteral nutrition.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the mammal is at risk of having sepsis caused by surgery.

19. The method of claim 13, wherein the TCF-II is administered to the mammal in conjunction with a pH conditioner, buffer or stabilizer.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 0.6 mg to about 600 mg of TCF-II.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 6 mg to about 60 mg of TCF-II.

22. The method of claim 13, wherein the TCF-II comprises a polysaccharide chain.

23. A method for preventing sepsis in a mammal, the method comprising the step of:

(a) administering to the mammal a therapeutic agent comprising an amount of purified hepatocyte growth factor or purified scatter factor effective to prevent sepsis.